be postponed if the party is prepared to pay the money? What is the harm this year?

Dr. A. R. Menon (*Minister for Rural Development*): We have to undertake the work. For that we have not provided funds this year.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan (*Chalakkudi*): If that land is acquired, the people can walk freely.

Dr. A. R. Menon (*Minister for Rural Development*): We will acquire it as soon as money is remitted. I myself went to the place and saw the locality.

KATTUR CHURCH ROAD—IMPROVEMENT OF.

4. **Mr. Puthur Achyuta Menon** (*Kattur*): Will the Government be pleased to state what has become of the petition from Kattur, dated 27th Kumbham 1112 regarding the improvement of Kattur Church Road;

(*b*) will the Government consider this question at its earliest opportunity?

Dr. A. R. Menon (*Minister for Rural Development*):

(*a*) A reply has been sent to the petitioners on 16th Medam 1112 that "their request will be considered by the Public Health and Panchayat Department in due course according to the availability of funds."

(*b*) Government have already considered this question; but the work will have to wait for some more time.

Mr. Puthur Achyuta Menon (*Kattur*): Has the Government understood the urgent necessity of this locality?

Dr. A. R. Menon (*Minister for Rural Development*): In this matter, we have to be guided by the Head of the Department and it is he who decides in a way the urgency of the matter. In his opinion, there are works more urgent than this. We must be guided by some of their advices and it depends upon the Head of the Department to give the necessary advice.

Mr. Puthur Achyuta Menon (*Kattur*): Will the Government consider the problem seriously?

Dr. A. R. Menon (*Minister for Rural Development*): Certainly. As soon as possible, this will be undertaken.

KARUPADANNA-VALLIVATTOM KADAVU ROAD—IMPROVEMENT OF.

5. **Mr. Puthur Achyuta Menon** (*Kattur*): Will the Government be pleased to state whether the Government has realised the urgency of improving the road leading to Vallivattom

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Kadavu (വള്ളിവട്ടം കടവ്) (Road from Karupadanna to Vallivattom Kadavu) and connecting it with the road leading to Puvathum Kadavu(പുവത്തുംകടവ്) (Road beginning from Konnath Kunnu and leading to Puvathum Kadavu)?

Dr. A. R. Menon (*Minister for Rural Development*): The road from Karupadanna to Vallivattom Kadavu is 1½ miles in length out of which a length of 6 furlongs has already been improved and metalled. The remaining portion of this road will be improved when funds are available. The opening of a road from Vallivattom to Puvathum Kadavu does not seem to be an urgent necessity since communication is easier between Vallivattom and Puvathum Kadavu through backwater.

Mr. Puthur Achyuta Menon (*Kattur*): Has it been brought to the notice of the Government that it is with great risk that we cross the backwaters?

Dr. A. R. Menon (*Minister for Rural Development*): It is not confined to that shore alone. I quite understand there is great risk. But we have undertaken other important works in the Kattur constituency. There is a road under construction which involves an expenditure of Rs. 3,500. We want to complete that before we take up other works.

Mr. Puthur Achyuta Menon (*Kattur*): May I state, Sir, that the place called Vallivattom is quite uncivilised, having no tanks or wells, and there was even a murder case.

Dr. A. R. Menon (*Minister for Rural Development*): I have heard murder cases being committed in most civilised countries. But, all the same the hon'ble member may rest assured that our anxiety is to render as much service to the Panchayat as we can, but owing to paucity of funds, we are unable to undertake the work that we want to undertake.

WATER SUPPLY—EDATHIRINJI VILLAGE.

6. **Mr. Puthur Achyuta Menon** (*Kattur*): Will the Government be pleased to state the steps taken by the Government till this day to provide drinking water to the people as well as cattle of Edathirinji village (എടതിരിഞ്ഞി)?

Dr. A. R. Menon (*Minister for Rural Development*): Four public wells—one near the Kakathuruthi ferry, one near the Muslim school, one at Marattikal and another in front of the village office—have already been sunk in Edathirinji village. There is no good public tank in the village, but proposals have been called for from the Panchayat for a new tank selecting a suitable site for it.

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